

ELLEN OSBORN'S LETTER.

Quaker Simplicity and New York Extravagance Side by Side.

Some Expensive Accessories to the Summer Toilette, \$5 to \$15, for instance, and Other Fussy Things That Cost a Pretty Penny.

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It all depends upon the point of view. That's true of many things, but it's truest of fashions, as was strikingly illustrated the other day on Twenty-third street, when the shoppers that are still in the city were intensely amused at the sight of four Quakers, who were making their way through the crowd in the direction of the "Jersey" ferry. The contrast between Quaker simplicity and New York prodigality was startling. The New Yorkers smiled as they passed and tossed their shoulder fluffs in disdain, and yet these people had every indication of prosperity about them and probably belonged to the "fashionable set" in Quakerdom.

The New York fashionables, however, turned their backs upon the simplicity, that limits itself to a poplin

a green straw hat that is trimmed with apple blossoms the effect is startlingly natural. When the wings only are used, it is the fancy to put a mull rosette in the place where the bird ought to be, sewing this artificial monstrosity upon the front of a round hat. Two pairs of wings are sometimes used in this way, perhaps to preserve the balance. Gauze is used in one way or another upon nearly every hat that is worn. If it is not in the form of rosettes it is in eardrums plaited and is made into funnel-like fans that stand up in place of ribbon loops. The same accordion plaiting is used for facing the brims of straw hats and for the brims themselves when wired. A green straw hat was entirely covered with tulle to match, and the trimming was white and purple lilacs.

The ingenious girl will make her own mull hats. It only requires three circles of wire set one with the other, with the smallest for the crown. They are joined by means of transverse wires that radiate spoke-like from the smaller circle. The crown may be made of wire and covered with mull like the brim, or of fancy straw. Flowers and two ostrich feathers are the proper trimming.

Sailor hats of knocabout wear are no different from those worn a season

It's Provoking

to be deceived; it's annoying to have a poor article of shortening. You can avoid both by seeing that your pail of COTOLENE bears the trade mark—steer's head in cotton-plant wreath—and be sure of having delicious, healthful food. Other manufacturers try to imitate COTOLENE, that's the best reason why you want the original article.

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color of the lace, for the all-black ones are only three dollars and a half. Other veils that come by the yard are heavily dotted. A white veil with black dots is the favorite for outing. White with white dots is also worn. In the matter of veils, women seem determined to ruin their eyes. The double veil is now worn very full in front, standing out over the eyes in folds that must play havoc with the rays of light. Gloves are black, white, gray and brown, and should be of glazed kid, but undressed kid are admissible, for many people refuse to give them up.

ELLEN OSBORN.

DECORATIVE HINTS.

How the Summer Sitting-Room Can Be Furnished Cozily.
[COPYRIGHT, 1895.]

The sitting-room, although the most used room in the house, is generally badly furnished. Here the odds and ends of furniture, worn rugs and hideous vases, gaudy tiles and scarfs from Aunt Jane and Cousin Maria, find a resting-place. With so many resources at hand—cotton duck in all hues and designs, Japanese crepes and rugs, not to mention the many dainty bits of china of native manufacture—such a state of affairs is highly unnecessary even on the plea of economy.

A housewife possessing unusual taste, but a slim purse for its indulgence, has evolved a sitting-room that combines comfort and cheerfulness as well as beauty. The wall paper, a quiet tone of Pompeian red, has a frieze of interlacing rings of dull gold, the ceiling being a roseate cream. The ugly slate mantel was neatly boxed in wood and an over-mantel—two uprights supporting a shelf—put up. Small shelves were fitted between the uprights, and a narrow beading tacked on the edges to conceal the joinings. Then the mantel was stained brown to match the woodwork and sea-green tiles set around the latrobe. Books, a few pieces of good china and bright fans ornamented the mantel shelves. A pole draped with dull blue cotton duck powdered with tiny wreaths of green and red extended from side wall to chimney breast.

The woman who has never tried this cotton duck for draperies will be surprised at its possibilities. It is soft, yet thick enough to dispense with linings—always an item—and lends itself most readily to decoration with either needle or brush, while exceedingly economical and easy to launder.

But to resume: This cozy corner was fitted up with a desk having all the paraphernalia for letter writing—a chair, scrap-basket and hanging-rack of handy reference books. A novel desk ornament was a quaint little Jap peep-box over the top of an old-fashioned alabaster vase, around which a calendar was tied with scarlet ribbons.

On the other side of the mantel the big old sofa, re-covered in the dull blue duck and well supplied with cushions, was placed crosswise; a two-shelved corner cabinet (made of wood and stained) hung above it and held books and a plaster bust of Minerva. A Japanese jute rug in dark tones of brown, blue and red nearly covered the floor. The special wants of the different members of the family were well considered in the arrangement of this room. The children had the far end for their study corner, equipped with a table, book shelves and their favorite pictures. The man of the house had his pet chair and table with drawer for his beloved pipes and tobacco. A sawbuck made a strong rack for his newspapers. A low divan, which was really a box with a hinged lid, was fitted up as a huge work-basket for the mistress.

Another charming sitting-room is furnished as a print room. The walls are hung with a plain rich yellow cream paper, having for a frieze a graceful design of nasturtiums, inter-twining stems and leaves, in pale dull reds and greens. The woodwork, floor and beaded picture rod are stained a deep yellow pine. The original mantel was taken down and the open fireplace set with small glazed terra cotta bricks to within five feet of the ceiling. Two fluted columns of yellow pine at each end support the overmantel, having small cabinets, shelf and rail, on which china, old pewter and some bits of red glass are charmingly grouped. A wide low divan fills up one recess by the fireplace, and makes one ideal reading nook. A curtain of duck, irregularly patterned in cream, dull red and green, hangs from a rod above the divan, which is covered with pale dull red and well supplied with pillows. A dwarf bookcase built into the other recess with drawers and pigeon holes above, serves as writing desk. Old prints and engravings, simply framed in beaded wood, stained chestnut, are grouped fr-

one group, landscapes in another, etc. Portieres of the figured duck with bands of dull red at the windows and doors, sash curtains of barred yellow and white muslin at the windows, boxes of scarlet geraniums and mignonette, easy chairs, a table and a floor rug of dull greens, reds and cream complete the furnishing of this attractive room.

These print rooms, which are a feature of English country houses, are becoming very popular in America, affording lovers of prints an opportunity to display their treasures. While the Bartolozzi's, Cosway's and other tempting prints at the art dealers are beyond the average pocketbook, yet some very charming pictures may be found by hunting among the old magazines in the second-hand book shops. The up-to-date housekeeper, seeking for novel and artistic effects, will find valuable aids in these old prints. Nothing will give a more distinctive air to an apartment, especially if she selects the work of some one engraver, period or subject. Such a room will give the Napoleon worshiper a charming opportunity for displaying her collection of Napoleon prints.

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PROPOSALS

OFFICE OF THE CITY ENGINEER,
NORFOLK, VA., July 13, 1895.

BIDS WILL BE OPENED AT THIS OFFICE AT 10 O'CLOCK ON THE 15th day of the month of August, 1895, for the construction of a new building on the site of the extension of the City Cemetery. Plans may be made at so much per cubic yard and for the excavation and hauling of excavated material and spreading of same, at so much per cubic yard.

A satisfactory bond with good security in the sum of \$25,000 will be required of the successful bidder.

All information in regard to the work may be had from the City Engineer.

The right to reject a bid is reserved.

THE CITY ENGINEER.

By W. T. PROCTOR,
City Engineer.

July 13-10.

NATIONAL HOME FOR D. V. S.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THIS HOME UNTIL ONE O'CLOCK P. M. WEDNESDAY, TWENTY-FOUR (24) JULY, 1895, for furnishing materials, labor, etc., and constructing wooden barracks buildings on the grounds of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, at Camp Lee, Norfolk, Va., a quantity of lumber, pipes, iron, and spikes. The articles must conform to the Navy Department and be subject to inspection. Bids must be made in duplicate and applied to the Navy Yard Office, Norfolk, Va. The bidders will be required to furnish a satisfactory bond for the performance of the contract. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

W. M. THOMPSON, Treasurer,
P. O. address, National Soldiers' Home, Va.
Jy13-10.

Approved: P. T. WOOD, Governor.

PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLIES FOR THE NAVY YARD, NORFOLK, VA., June 28, 1895. Sealed proposals for supplies for the Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., will be received at the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., until one o'clock, Monday, July 16, 1895, and publicly opened immediately thereafter. It is to be understood that the Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., a quantity of lumber, pipes, iron, and spikes. The articles must conform to the Navy Department and be subject to inspection. Bids must be made in duplicate and applied to the Navy Yard Office, Norfolk, Va. The bidders will be required to furnish a satisfactory bond for the performance of the contract. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

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